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PATENT  
Attorney Docket No.: 080633-000000US  
Client Ref. No.: 12638/4/Ce

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

Helmut BACHER, et al.

Int'l Appln. No.: PCT/AT2003/0000322

Int'l Filing Date: October 27, 2003

U.S. Appln. No.:

For: BACKFLUSHABLE FILTERING  
APPARATUS FOR MOLTEN  
MATERIAL AND DISTRIBUTION  
UNIT FOR A FILTER DEVICE OF THIS  
TYPE

Customer No.: 20350

Confirmation No.

Examiner:

Technology Center/Art Unit:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

February 24, 2005

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.